

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/673,686

Examiner

Ernest F. Karlson

Applicant(s)

ELDRIDGE ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the RCE and amendment of April 7, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 47-70 and 72.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 0406, 01/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 200606061.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.



ERNEST KARLSEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

The Restriction Requirement of September 29, 2005 is withdrawn and all claims examined.

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Claim 47, lines 8 and 9, "without bonding to the resilient contact structures" has been deleted and ", wherein each of said plurality of resilient contact structures comprises an electrically conductive structure, and said electrically conductive structure is a spring, wherein when pressed against one of said contact elements of said test board, said spring generates a contact force sufficient to establish an electrical connection with said contact element" substituted therefor.

Claim 71 has been cancelled.

In the specification, page 1, lines 12-27 have been deleted along with any previous amendments thereto and replaced with:

"This patent application is a continuation of commonly owned U.S. Patent Application No. 09/468,620, filed December 21, 1999 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,455,023), which is a continuation of commonly owned U.S. Patent Application No. 08/839,771, filed April 15, 1997 (now U.S. patent No. 6,032,356), which is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/558,332, filed November 15, 1995 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,829,128), which is a continuation-in-part of commonly-owned U.S. Patent Application No.

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08/452,255 (hereinafter "PARENT CASE"), filed 5/26/95 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,336,269), which is a continuation-in-part of commonly-owned U.S. Patent Application No. 08/340,144 filed 11/15/94 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,917,707), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/152,812, filed 11/16/93 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,476,211).

The aforementioned U.S. Patent Application No. 08/558,332 is also a continuation-in-part of commonly-owned U.S. Patent Application No. 08/526,246, filed 9/21/95 (now abandoned), and of commonly-owned, copending U.S. Patent Application No. 08/533,584, filed 10/18/95 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,772,451), and of commonly-owned, U.S. Patent Application No. 08/554,902, filed 11/9/95 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,974,662)."

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. N. Kenneth Burraston on May 31, 2006

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: No reference was found anticipating or a combination of references found making obvious a burnin apparatus for burning in a semiconductor device including, a semiconductor wafer having a plurality of unsingulated semiconductor devices thereon, each of the semiconductor devices having a plurality of resilient contact structures attached to terminals of the semiconductor device, a test board disposed in proximity to the semiconductor wafer, the test board including a plurality of contact elements for forming pressure connections with ones of the resilient contact structures, wherein each of the

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plurality of resilient contact structures is an electrically conductive spring, wherein when pressed against one of the contact elements of the test board, the spring generates a contact force sufficient to establish an electrical connection with the contact element and means for elevating a temperature of the semiconductor devices for a period of time.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Examiner's Comment

Claims 47-70 and 72 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Ernest F. Karlsen at telephone number 571-272-1961.

Ernest F. Karlsen

June 1, 2006


ERNEST KARLSEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER